



May 2011

Greetings from Eastern Europe to our dear partners,

We thank the Lord for wonderful blessings in the States. With our six children, we traveled thousands of miles throughout the Midwest, South, and Southwest. In each place we met with dear friends and partners of the ministry. We especially thank you for the love which you showed towards our children. We returned to our assignment to labor by God's grace as this world is wrapping up before the coming of the Lord. It is a great blessing to be back in the field among the National Missionaries. We arrived in Iasi on a Wednesday, and by Friday I was already traveling, visiting and ministering in different churches and making plans to plant more churches.



*The resurrection message was given to 105 children at the Grenauti orphanage as well as food and much love.*

On the day we arrived, our first mission team came to be with us. Roy and Terry Wanta joined me as we visited the churches and orphanages. Easter is a forgotten holiday for institutionalized children. As we went to visit the 105 children in the orphanage in Grenauti, Moldova, before Easter, we were able to share with them the most important message of the death, burial, and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ. We observed the stark conditions of the children whose home is in a drafty concrete building. The children lacked warm clothing in the cold eating area as they ate watered-down soup with watered-down juice for dinner. Our national missionaries visit there weekly to bring whatever resources they can to help them and also to encourage them with the Word of God and a touch of love.

We left there to meet with our National Missionary Alexandru (Sasha) Dubravat and his wife, Olga, who are leading the church planting team in Rotunda. On the evening we arrived, they took the last handful of flour they had to make us a bread to eat, like the widow who served Elijah. We were deeply moved and left money for food to purchase staples for their pantry. Sasha is a builder by trade, but all winter he was only able to find work 3 days each month. The price of gasoline is currently at \$7.74 per gallon, and they use most of the GMI resources to fill their gas tank to travel to the church plants and preach the Gospel. Such is the circumstance of most of our national missionaries.



*L to R National missionaries Sasha and Olga Dubravat, Ghiorghii Cazacu, Terry and Roy Wanta (visiting mission team from Wisconsin)*

Under the leadership of Brother Rubin Adrian, the church planting team is executing their strategy to reach northern Moldova with the Good News. They begin the work in an unreached village by first sending in one of twenty evangelistic teams of young people. Each team of 15 is between the ages of 16 to 24. They spend one week in a village. During the day they provide the destitute with staples like rice and oil or they perform other acts of service within the community, working in cooperation with the local mayor. They hold a VBS for the children during the day. At night they hold outdoor evangelistic meetings with musical presentations and preaching, drawing local neighbors and also the people they have ministered to in a practical way. The teams stay in local homes or rent any available space. It costs \$1,000 per week for each team of 15 to feed and house them. An additional \$500 is needed each week to give them resources to feed and help the neediest. Local churches donate food. Bibles are needed for the new converts and those

cost \$8 each. GMI comes alongside with resources as the Lord provides, and I participate in many of the evangelistic meetings. We are spurred on by the Word of God *"You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a basket. Instead, they put it on the stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in Heaven."* Matthew 5:14-16  
May the Lord God alone receive the glory.

These evangelistic meetings lead to the planting of a new church in a village like Rotunda. Under Brother Rubin's leadership, Igor Vasilev is the evangelist assigned to a region in Northern Moldova. He helped to build the church in Terebna last year, and

now he works alongside Sasha during the construction and growth of the new church in Rotunda. Sasha, the pastor of the new church plant, is a Bible School graduate and experienced youth pastor. He is sent out from the home church, traveling thirty miles each way from his home. Last year the Lord provided resources to purchase the land and materials to build the foundation for this new church. In the fall the local volunteers built the foundation, and now walls are going up. Our visitors, who had helped to build the church in Terebna last year, were delighted to see the dedication of the nationals as they donated their labor to build in Rotunda. We help in the church building effort, but the local believers are also giving sacrificially. Someone from Moldova donated some concrete blocks. Another man wants to provide the roof. Please keep these new congregations in your prayers as they reach the lost across Northern Moldova. As resources come in for the electrical, interior work, and fencing, we pray to have the church ready to dedicate by September.



*115 orphans at the Cornesti Tuberculosis Recovery Orphanage received summer shoes with the help of our friends and partners.*

As we went to visit National Missionary Anatoly Gurgarov, he shared with us a great opportunity to purchase an old home in the village of Vinhotint to provide a place for growth of the local house church. A national missionary ministers weekly to a new congregation of about 10 to 15. There are two thousand people in this village and no other evangelical work exists there or anywhere near there. We acted immediately and committed the resources. Unbelievers are drawn to a new building. We thank the Lord for a new sanctuary being built in a town which never had one. Please pray for church growth and for resources for a new roof and remodeling.

As we crossed the border back into Moldova, it was our great joy to distribute summer-weight leather shoes to the 115 orphans who live in the Cornesti Tuberculosis Recovery Orphanage. The director of the orphanage is so grateful for any help provided for these little ones. The great need she expressed to us during the visit was for stainless steel plates, cups, and utensils. Because these children suffer from TB, everything must be sterilized, and only stainless steel will hold up through repeated boiling. This quality is not available in Moldova and must be imported from England. The director also longs for some balls and recreation equipment so the children can have some small measure of joy as the weather warms and they can be outside. The grounds are fenced and the children never leave there. They go to the fence and watch longingly as mothers and fathers walk with their children. Every day for them is the same. While we were there watching the children put on their new shoes, a young boy of about 11 or 12 approached me and said, *"Please come to visit us often even if you have no gifts."* They cry out for deep love and relationship. You can improve the life of an abandoned child with only \$5 for a ball, bat, and rope or with \$40 for a stainless steel place setting and utensils.



*The youth at the annual summer camps receive the word of God and salvation message.*

There are thousands of other young people across Romania, Moldova, and Transnistria who need to hear the Good News of the Lord Jesus Christ. National missionaries are busy preparing to reach 700 children and youth through summer camps. Devaluation of the dollar and gasoline prices which drive all costs up will challenge us to continue to provide food, lodging, and transportation for these impoverished young people. But we consider it a great honor to be a part of reaching the younger generation for Christ, and we know that each year hundreds of them will come to the Lord. They take the message back home to weary parents, and the churches grow as the families come under the shelter of God's wings. With gasoline prices up everywhere, perhaps you will be staying closer to home this year. As you make your plans, please pray about sending an extra \$30 so that an impoverished child can celebrate a few days of laughter and joy and hear the Good News about everlasting joy with Jesus Christ.

In this journey of just a few days, we were reminded of the overwhelming needs of the people in Eastern Europe. But we serve the God of impossible. You can allow the Lord to use you to be the answer to the prayers of the national missionaries, the children, and the new believers. As you continue to pray about all of these needs and to pray for us, we continue to pray for you that we may do the Lord's will and hear *"Well done, thou good and faithful servant."* Matthew 25:21

You are so dear to us. Now that our children have met so many of you, our family prayer times are even more meaningful to them because they can see your faces, your homes, and your churches, as they lift you up to the Lord each night. Without your prayers and your support, we could not fulfill the assignment God has given us.

May the grace of the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all,

*Ghiorghi Cazacu*

*Cristina, Nicoleta, Diana, David, Lia, Daniel and Timotei Cazacu*